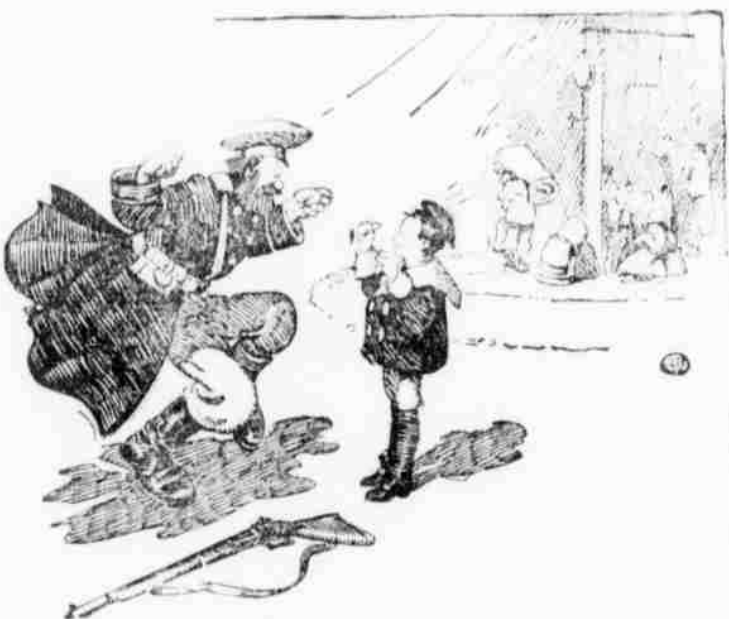


# PECK'S BAD BOY WITH THE CIRCUS

By HON. GEORGE W. PECK  
Author of "Peck's Bad Boy" and "Peck's Boy"

The Bad Boy Causes Trouble Between the Russian Cossacks and the Jap Jugglers — A Jap, Tight-Rope Walker, Jim-Jitsu Pa — The Animals Go on a Strike — Pa Runs the Menagerie for a Day and Wins Their Gratitude.

I did not mean any harm when I told the Japanese jugglers that they ought to kick against having these Russian cavalrymen in the show, the fellows who ride horses standing up in the wildest department, and I had no reason to think that they would do it. I had no reason to think that they would do it. I had no reason to think that they would do it.



"Gee, But Didn't That Russian Talk Right and Well."

When I told the little Japs, "Gee, didn't that Russian talk right and well," they all looked at me and then they all looked at each other.

You ought to have seen the look of scorn on the faces of the Jap jugglers when the interpreter told them that the circus people were afraid the Russians would hurt them. They laughed awhile, and then the interpreter told me that the ten little Japs could whip the 20 Russians in four minutes.

Profoundly it was none of my business, and I never ought to have repeated it, but in a circus everybody wants to know everything that is going on, so when the big leader of the Russians asked me what those brown monkeys

was coming. When their act was over the Japs bowed to the audience, and started out where the Russians were lined up to come riding in. The big Russian said: "Look at the little monkeys," but he hadn't got the words out of his mouth before the Japs turned, and every man grabbed the tail of every other horse, and each of the ten Japs took a Russian by the neck with a jin jitsu strangle hold, and reached out his leg and wound it around the Russian on the next horse, and in ten seconds they had all the 20 Russians.

It was the worst mix-up ever was, and the managers told me to get a stick to it, and I pulled off my coat and grabbed the first Jap he could get at, and began to pull him, like you would take hold of the leg of a dog in a fight.

Pa said: "Here, quit this foolishness, there's an armistice, and the war is over anyway."

"Oh, but the Japs didn't do a thing to me," he grumbled, pa by the wrist, and he seemed to be having an episode.

pa rolled over and groaned in his berth, and went to sleep and snored so the freaks wanted to have a nose bag, such as horses eat out of, pulled over his face.

The queerest thing that ever happened in the circus business in this country took place at Germantown, Pa. The teamsters went on a strike at Pittsburgh, for increase in wages and shorter hours, and for two days the management had a great time.

We had to get drays to haul the stuff from the train to the lot, and then our teamsters got the local drays to haul them, and when we got ready to join the stuff back to the train nobody would do any work, and the walking delegates from the Teamsters' union just took possession of the show, and we were stuck, like an automobile when the gasoline gives out.

We had got to looking at the teamsters as of no particular account when they walked out, but when they wouldn't work, they became the most important part of the show, and after the show was over the managers who had told the striking teamsters to go home, found that they had gone home, and they had to rush all over Germantown and had them, and gave them demands, and got them to go to work.

Pa was sent out to find a bunch of them, and it cost pa over \$30 to get them out of a beer garden, and back to the lot, and it was almost daylight before we got our train started for the next town.

When at the next town we could see there was something the matter with our animals. They acted as though they had lost all interest in the success of the show, and wouldn't do any of their stunts worth a cent. The elephants went through their act carefully, and when they were scolded or praised with the iron hook, they got mad and wanted to fight, and when they got back from the ring to the animal tent they wouldn't eat the baked hay, but threw it all over the tent, and acted riotous.

The kangaroos would not do their boxing act, the horses kicked at their hay, and wouldn't eat their oats, the camels grumbled at their food, and scared the people who passed by where they were tied to stakes, the sacred cattle got their backs up and acted as though they, being pious, couldn't swear, but would like to hire the by-ones to swear for them; the giraffes laid down and curled their necks so they were no attraction to the show, cause a giraffe is no curiosity unless he stretches himself away up towards the top of the tent. The zebras rolled in the mud and spoiled their stripes, so people couldn't tell them from common mules; the grizzly bear walked in his cage, and kept giving vent to bear language, and the big lion was howling all the time.

The show was a failure at that town, and when we loaded the train the managers held a meeting in our car to decide what in thunder was the matter with the animals. All kinds of theories were advanced, such as poison, malaria from Indiana, and pure foolishness. After they had discussed the matter awhile, pa came in, and they asked him what he thought about it, and that tickled pa, cause as foolish as he looks, he helps the show out of lots of bad holes. Pa lit a cigar and put it in one side of his mouth, put his hat up on one side of his head, like he was tough, and looked wise, and said:

"Fellow fakers, I have been watching the animals all day, and while I do not say they understand enough of the ways of human beings to be posted on labor unions, and all that, I want to tell you they are on a strike, and that grizzly and that lion are the walking delegates that are stirring them up to mischief. They may not know anything about the teamsters' strike, but they know something has happened, and they are displeased at something, and they have lost respect for the employer. They are on a strike, and the very devil is going to pay to-morrow, unless the cause of the dissatisfaction is discovered and mutual concessions made."

"Gentlemen, you hear me," said pa, and he sat down on the edge of the arm of the car seat.

They gave pa the laugh, but finally told him to take charge of the strike and settle it quick, but they wanted to know what he thought animals would be dissatisfied about, as long as they got food enough to eat.

Pa said: "I'll tell you. You feed the horses and other hay-eating animals on muddy baked hay, bought from contractors that may have had it on hand for five years. How would you like it if you were served with breakfast food that had been stored in a warehouse until it was mildewed? A horse or an elephant has feelings. Give them baled hay, and when they are trying to pick out a mouthful that is not spoiled, you drive along with a load of nice new-mown timothy or alfalfa, and see them make a rush for that load of hay, the way my ten-horse team did the other day for that load of cornstalks."

Well, they told pa to arbitrate the strike, and the next day he had a couple of loads of timothy hay, such as mother used to make, driven in and unloaded, and the horses, elephants, camels, and things almost set up a cheer for pa. The meat-eating animals were given a picnic of the freshest beef, with a little so decayed that it was only fit to be buried, for the hyenas and jackals, and every animal was happy. They did their turns better than ever, and the sacred cattle almost acted devilish.

New the animals have declared the strike off, and they want to lick pa's hand. The owners of the show appreciate genius and they have raised pa's salary and given him full charge of the menagerie.

## ECONOMIC STOCK FEEDING

A Timely Discussion of Wise and Unwise Methods of Live Stock Raising.

The economic feeding of live stock does not mean the putting of animals upon a starvation ration in order to save feed, or to make a certain supply of feed reach over a specified time. Economy in feed means a saving of feed from loss or extravagant use. The turning of stock into meadows and where they have access to hay stacks is a waste of feed, and therefore a violation of system and economical methods in handling live stock. The shoveling of corn into muddy yards for the hogs to gather up is not an observance of economy; it is a waste of feed and a damage to the health of the swine.

All grains and feed products of all kinds that are produced on the farm or brought onto it as commercial feeds have a feed value, and should be turned to some account in maintaining the farm stock. The economy of feed and feed products on the farm is the most source of profit in farming. It is not an easy thing to do, and it is not a thing that is done by the average farmer, but it is a thing that is done by the successful farmer.

The economical management of what is produced on the farm has an great bearing on profit as the growing of the crop. The study of live stock requirements is a necessity. Every farmer and handler of live stock should know, as nearly as can be, what the requirements are of the various kinds of feeds. This can be met by instruction and practical work among the farm animals.

It is folly of the worst kind to starve off during the winter months the stock that has been put on during the grass season. Yet we see the extravagant practice going on all around us. This is probably more in evidence in the strictly grazing districts, where great gains are made during the summer months. As much as 300 pounds is often boasted of as the gain on an animal during the grazing season, and this is largely lost the following winter by being starved off, as a result of requiring the animal to rustle for a living on bare prairie.

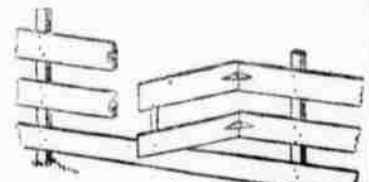
It matters not what plan is adopted or permitted to go into use in the wintering of animals that results in the starving off of flesh. It is poor economy from a feed standpoint, declares the Twentieth Century Farmer. It has been ascertained that the greatest profit in live stock growing is in the rapid development of the animal; the more rapidly the young thing is pushed forward into a fully matured beast the greater the profit. It would be folly to attempt to disprove this statement, so in its support. The starving process that commences with the decline of pasture feed in the fall season and is now going on all over the stock raising district will mean the destroying of millions of dollars in live stock value, if the theory of constant growth and development is to be accepted.

It is economic feeding to give all animals liberally of such feeds as are available during the cold and stormy weather, whether on ranch or farm. It will be economy to sell such stock as cannot be fully supplied with winter feed. The economic feeding of stock can never be traced to starvation methods; not in a single instance has this been attended with other than loss and financial ruin. Economic feeding means feeding without waste or loss of either feed or animal.

## SHORT CUTS ACROSS LOTS

How a Convenient Fence Gate Can Be Made to Save Many a Step on the Farm.

F. O. Sibbey suggests in Agriculturalist the method here illustrated to get "across lots" by the shortest cut. If the fence is a wire fence, have in con-



HANDY CROSS LOTS GATE.

venient places a length of board fence which can be arranged as here shown. The device is inexpensive and constructed in very little time, yet may save a great many steps in the course of a season.

## Frozen Potatoes

If the potatoes freeze, do not allow them to thaw. Keep them frozen until used, or else bury them in the ground. For cooking while frozen, wash quickly and put them immediately into boiling water. Apples should be kept from the air until the frost is out. If they are to be used while frozen, pare and slice them into boiling water. The pieces will remain white when cooked, but if left out they turn brown.

## Try It.

When a calf is taken away to be butchered, if a string (twine of any kind) is put into its blood and then tied around the cow's neck, she never frets nor bawls for the calf, declares a writer in Farm Journal, who also says she has done this for years.

Fill up a cow with ice-cold water, and allow her to stand in the winter winds for an hour afterward, and you will be surprised to find how quickly she will respond to the treatment by taking out of the milk pail.—Farm Journal.

## WAS WITHIN HIS RIGHTS.

An Argument That Admitted of Some Disputatious Question.

The Nagasbys were entertaining, and to be entertained by the Nagasbys is a liberal education in the art of listening, and making things generally uncomfortable for everyone present, relates the bystander.

One of the guests was engaged in the game and during amusement of listening an absent friend.

"Well," he said, "he's the meanest, stingiest man I ever knew; in fact, I don't think there's another man in the world who is so mean."

"Oh, I don't know," interrupted Nagasby, "that's a pretty tall order, you know. I think I know a stinger man. There's my father-in-law, for instance."

"This ailed place a red rag on Mrs. Nagasby."

"Look here," she snapped, "you're always backbiting your father-in-law! I simply won't stand it!"

"Oh, good, good!" rejoined Nagasby. "He's my father-in-law, not yours. Just you wait until I say something about your father-in-law to talk!"

"You was a right old block, and at 41-70 they were still at it, and going stronger than ever."

## DOCTOR CURED OF ECZEMA.

Maryland Physician Cures Himself—Dr. Fisher Says: "Cuticura Remedies Possess True Merit."

"My face was afflicted with eczema in the year 1897. I used the Cuticura Remedies, and was entirely cured. I am a practicing physician, and very often prescribe Cuticura Remedies and Cuticura Soap in cases of eczema, and they have cured where other formulas have failed. I am not in the habit of endorsing patent medicines, but when I find remedies possessing true merit, such as the Cuticura Remedies, I am bound to endorse them to promote their value to the world. I have been practicing medicine for sixteen years, and must say I feel your Remedies are a No. 1. You are at liberty to publish the letter. G. M. Fisher, M. D., Bug Pool, Md., May 24, 1905."

Most young fellows don't begin to think seriously about marriage until they have been married two or three months.—N. Y. Times.

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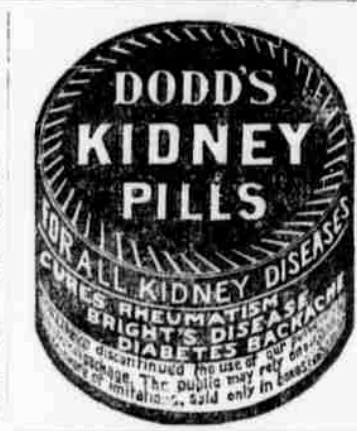
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